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1) *The Upper Newport Bay Ecosystem Restoration Project* – to fund the restoration of estuarine habitats in the Upper Newport Bay through dredging and habitat reconstruction. This project was authorized by Congress in Section 101(b)(9) of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-541). Amount requested: $14.3 million in the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill.

2) *The Irvine Basin Groundwater and Surface Water Improvement Project* – to fund a natural treatment system of man-made wetlands to remove unwanted sediment, nutrients, and other containments from the San Diego Creek watershed and Upper Newport Bay. This project was authorized by Congress in P.L. 108-233, the Irvine Basin Groundwater and Surface Water Improvement Act. Amount requested: $5 million in the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill.

**Authorizations - Water Resources Development Act ("WRDA")**

1) *Dana Point Harbor:* The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers constructed the Harbor breakwater and jetties in 1966. While the improvements created safe anchorage, they also altered ocean currents in the Harbor and at adjacent Doheny State Park Beach. The Harbor now restricts original water circulation and is contributing to diminished water quality. Orange County recently completed a study of water quality at Baby Beach within the Harbor and found that lack of adequate water circulation is a key contributing factor to high bacteria counts. This would authorize the Corps of Engineers (COE) to study and initiate environmental restoration for adverse water quality impacts to the Dana Point Harbor and adjacent Doheny State Park Beach caused by the breakwater and jetties constructed by the COE.

2) *Aliso Creek Mainstream Project:* Through Corps of Engineers studies, Aliso Creek Mainstem Project seeks funds for implementation of results from the Watershed Study. The proposed project will include a series of twenty-four 2-foot high grade control structures to stabilize the channel gradient (pools and riffles). As part of the stabilization effort, exotic vegetation will be removed, and native riparian vegetation will be planted. The low profile pool and riffle structures will allow for fish passage. At various portions of the creek, banks will be modified to create stable flood plain areas. This is an opportunity to apply for the first time a MOU (memo of understanding) between the Army Corp and the EPA, outlining a new, better coordinated and effective approach to watershed management. This will also demonstrate with a modest investment a best practices design to address problems of urban runoff. This project is necessary to protect public infrastructure along Aliso Creek and human health at Aliso County Beach. The basic features of the project are stabilization, restoration, water treatment and reclamation.

3) *Prado Dam Flood Control and Water Conservation Project:* This project would address seasonal conservation at Prado Dam to store water from the last storm flow and winter runoff. The Orange County Water District, in partnership with the COE, captures and stores water at Prado Dam for controlled release into the district's recharge facilities. Capturing water behind the dam results in the recharge of up to 50,000 additional acre-feet of water each year into the vast groundwater basin under north and central Orange County. This basin provides a reliable and local water supply to more than 20 cities and agencies and their 2.3 million customers, saving residents millions of dollars per year in purchases of imported water.